

by Jharkhand State Electricity Board only in the end of November, 2006. However, an adhoc payment of Rs. 3.5 crores was released to the implementing agencies to facilitate undertaking preliminary activities such as surveys and preparation of DPRs.

BENCHES OF SUPREME COURT

*168. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) details of recommendations made by parliamentary committees for setting up of Benches of Supreme Court in the South and North-East, so far;
- (b) the reasons for non implementation of these recommendations; and
- (c) the steps Government propose to take to fulfil the aspirations of the people in far flung regions?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ):

(a) to (c) The Department-Related Parliamentary Committee on Home Affairs concerning Department of Justice on the Demands for Grants in its 56th, 61st and 101st reports for the years 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2003-04 respectively and the 6th Report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law & Justice on Demands for Grants 2005-06 of the Ministry of Law & Justice have recommended setting up of the Benches of Supreme Court outside Delhi.

According to article 130 of the Constitution, "the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint." However, the Chief Justice of India as well as the Full Court have been consistently opposed to the proposal for setting up of the Benches of the Supreme Court in the South and other regions of the country. But now, Advocate-on-Record or petitioner-in-person can file cases in the Supreme Court of India through internet.